The Servant of God Encarnita Ortega

Prayer for private devotion

Lord, You showed your daughter Encarnita the attractiveness of holiness lived in the middle of world, and You gave her the grace to faithfully follow that path in Opus Dei: grant me, like her, to discover your love each day and to transmit it to everyone around me. Deign to glorify your daughter Encarnita and through her intercession grant me the favor I request.

(Here make your request). Amen.

Our Father, Hail Mary, Glory be to the Father.

In conformity with the decrees of Pope Urban VIII, we declare that there is no intention of anticipating in any way the judgment of the Church, and that this prayer is not intended for public use.



Encarnita Ortega was born on May 5, 1920, in Ponte Caldelas (Pontevedra), Spain.

She spent her childhood and youth in Galicia and Aragon. In 1941 she attended a retreat preached by St. Josemaria Escrivá in Alaquas (Valencia) and received from God the grace of a vocation to Opus Dei.

Along with other young ladies, she initiated the apostolic work of Opus Dei with women, encouraged by the Founder, who showed her the sanctifying value of ordinary work. She very quickly incorporated this teaching to her life, and it was precisely in and through work that she forged her Christian virtues.

In 1946 she moved to Rome, and from there, with faith in God and love for souls, worked on the expansion of Opus Dei throughout the world. She had a great spirit of service that led her to forget herself and to attend to the

spiritual and material needs of those around her. She returned to Spain in 1961 and worked in various apostolic initiatives. She lived the last years of her life in Valladolid.

In 1980 she was diagnosed with cancer. For fifteen years, despite her illness, she continued with her normal pace of hard work, heroically loving God and teaching others the sanctifying value of the Cross.

Her continuous dealing with God, through an intense life of piety, led her to convert human friendships into genuine encounters with Jesus Christ. One can say that countless people have come closer to God and found meaning in their lives through their dealings with Encarnita. She died a holy death in Pamplona on December 1, 1995.

Those who obtain favors through the intercession of Encarnita Ortega are asked to notify the Opus Dei Prelature, Viale Bruno Buozzi 75, Rome, Italy, or email info@opusdei.org.